

RACHET LOCKING BRAKE FOR MEDICAL
DEVICES

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An apparatus is provided for securely positioning a medical device that prevents movement of one end of the device by applying a single force. The apparatus allows a doctor to depress a pedal, which is connected to a pedal housing by way of a single shaft. Connected to the ends of the shaft are two separate linkage members. The first linkage member is attached to a ratcheting mechanism that steers the pedal into the locked position. The second linkage member is connected to a cam within the pedal housing that drives a spring-loaded plunger assembly. When the pedal is in the locked position the plunger assembly is in contact with the floor, thereby preventing movement of the device. To release the braking device, the doctor depresses the pedal slightly, which causes the ratcheting mechanism to allow the pedal, and therefore the plunger assembly, to return to their unlocked positions.

15